



# PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

April – 2004 Volume 4, Issue 4

Office of Local and Rural Health



Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary

Kathleen Sebelius, Governor

## ELIMINATING HEALTH DISPARITIES



NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

April 5 - 11, 2004

### ***Communities Moving from Statistics to Solutions***

National Public Health Week is an opportunity to promote your local health department. The theme this year is "Eliminating Health Disparities." Use the media (radio, newspaper, TV, etc.) to spread awareness of all the services your local health department provides to eliminate health disparities in the community. For more information go to the following website:

<http://www.apha.org/nphw/solutions>

### **Health Disparities: A General Overview**

#### **What are health disparities?**

- ❖ Health disparities are differences that occur by gender, race and ethnicity, education level, income level, disability, geographic location and/or sexual orientation.
- ❖ Some health disparities are unavoidable, such as health problems that are related to a person's genetic structure.
- ❖ However, other health disparities are potentially avoidable, especially when they are related to factors such as living in low-income neighborhoods or having unequal access to medical care and information.

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#### **Some examples of health disparities include:**

- ❖ **Lack of physicians in rural areas.** Residents of rural areas have less contact and fewer visits with physicians.<sup>2</sup> Although 20 percent of Americans live in rural areas, only nine percent of the nation's physicians practice in rural areas.<sup>1</sup>
- ❖ **Unequal treatment for minorities.** Research has shown that even when racial/ethnic minorities are insured at levels comparable to whites, they tend to receive a

lower quality of health care for the same health conditions.<sup>3</sup>

- ❖ **Lack of diversity among health care providers.** Lack of diversity among health care providers can be a barrier to communication. Minorities make up 28 percent of the U.S. population but only three percent of medical school faculty, 16 percent of public health school faculty and 17 percent of all city and county health officers.<sup>4</sup>
- ❖ **Low health literacy.** People with poor health literacy may have problems communicating with their physician, reading instructions and labels on medicines, completing medical and insurance forms and understanding many other aspects of health care. Over half of the people living in the United States are affected by health literacy.<sup>5</sup>
- ❖ **Lack of insurance.** Uninsured women receive fewer prenatal services and needed care than women with insurance.<sup>6</sup>
- ❖ **Exposures to environmental risks.** People in low-income communities often have less healthy surroundings than people in other communities. Low-income communities are often located in or near polluting industrial areas and have cheap older housing where lead paint and pests are a threat.<sup>7</sup>
- ❖ **Poverty and cancer.** The American Cancer Society estimates that the cancer survival rate of poor individuals is 10-15 percent lower than those of other Americans. Low income women are less likely to have mammography and Pap test screening.<sup>2</sup>

1. "National Healthcare Disparities Report," US Dept Health and Human Services, December 2003, Prepublication Copy.
2. "Rural Poor and the Medically Underserved & Cancer," Intercultural Cancer Council, <http://iccnetwork.org/cancerfacts/ICC-CFS6.pdf>
3. "Closing the Gap 2003: Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care," Alliance for Health Reform, October 2004, <http://www.allhealth.org>.
4. <http://www.cfah.org/factsoflife/vol8no3.cfm>
5. <http://www.chcs.org/resource/pdf/hl1.pdf>
6. March of Dimes 2003 Data Book for Policy Makers, "Maternal, Infant, and Child Health in the United States."
7. <http://www.ejhu.org/disparities.html>

## TOBACCO USE

### One of the Great Public Health Challenges of the Day



Recognizing the use of tobacco products as one of the great public health challenges of

the day, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), and the National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) have joined together to eliminate this epidemic. The



Environmental Protection Agency classifies secondhand smoke as a Group A (known human) carcinogen, (*Environmental Health Information Service, "9<sup>th</sup> Report on Carcinogens," U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, National Toxicology Program, 2000*). Scientific studies estimate that secondhand smoke accounts for nearly 3,000 lung cancer deaths, and as many as 62,000 deaths from coronary heart disease annually among adult nonsmokers in the United States. It also increases the risk of a range of illnesses, particularly among children, including asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, and other respiratory illnesses. In addition, substantial evidence now indicates that secondhand smoke is associated with low birth weight and sudden infant death syndrome. The action plan provides clear-cut activities that state and local governments can undertake to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke and implement clean indoor air policies. Action items span from public education to enforcement of local ordinances. A sustained effort is needed to meet the nation's **Healthy People 2010** 21 objectives for tobacco use reduction.



Working together, state and local health agencies, board of health officials, and national partners can achieve these goals and strive towards a smoke-free future. Copies of the action plans are available at <http://www.astho.org/>, <http://www.naccho.org>, and <http://www.nalboh.org>.

## MERCURY, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND HEALTH CARE FACILITIES



Mercury has been used in industry processes for many years and has been used in medicine since the 1500s—so why has it recently become a "hot" environmental and public health issue? Mercury has been identified as a high-priority PBT or persistent bioaccumulative and toxic substance. In the environment, mercury circulates through land, air, and water, maintaining

and often times increasing in toxicity (bioaccumulation). Human exposure to mercury is greatest when mercury enters the aquatic environments. There it bioaccumulates in fish. Humans and other fish-eating animals such as birds are exposed to it when they consume these mercury-tainted fish.

Mercury is a potent neurotoxin, especially to the unborn and children. Mercury poisoning may cause lack of coordination, damage kidneys and liver, impair development, and in extreme cases result in death. To date, Kansas has not detected levels of mercury in fish tissue that warrant the issuance of fish consumption advisories. However, fish tissue mercury levels are on the rise in Kansas and nationwide.

Mercury is commonly found in many devices used in health care facilities. Medical uses of mercury may include the following: thermometers, sphygmomanometers, lab chemicals, medical batteries, pharmaceutical preservatives, cleaning solutions, fluorescent lights, thermostats, pressure gauges, and electrical switches. Check with your vendors when replacing any of these items; perhaps there is a non-mercury-containing alternative. Any accidental release of mercury to the environment can result in a costly cleanup.

To report a mercury spill or release, contact the spill hotline, 785-296-1679. And, if you have questions about proper disposal of mercury containing devices, contact Jim Rudeen, Bureau of Waste Management, 785-296-1603.

#### BROADENING OUR HORIZONS



1<sup>st</sup> Annual Kansas Public Health Nursing Conference: "Broadening Our Horizons", April 12 – 14<sup>th</sup> Wichita Airport Hilton, Wichita, KS. Registration forms are rapidly coming in for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Kansas Public Health Nursing Conference! It looks like many of you are planning to attend the first day, April 12, to obtain knowledge in the "Core Essentials of Public Health," or refresh your skills. This will also be a great day to network with other colleagues. You can go shopping that evening and enjoy a swim in the large indoor pool, then relax in the jacuzzi. The Wichita Airport Hilton provides free shuttles to the nearby Town West Mall, so that will be a fun option! It's going to be a great conference!

Registration applications maybe found at <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/olrh/download/PHNursingConference.pdf> or contact Pat at 785-296-1232.



#### IN MEMORY OF JERRY FRANTZ

Jerry Frantz, Interim Director of the Sedgwick County Health Department, passed away on March 15<sup>th</sup> following a yearlong battle with lymphoma.

During his brief tenure in public health, Jerry left his mark on the health department. He served as Sedgwick County Appraiser for approximately ten years, and took on the additional job of Interim Health Director to assist with the transition of the health department to the county, and to set the strategic direction for the future.



Jerry helped transform the Appraiser's Office through his leadership and drive to create a professional organization, using technology for greater efficiency and better customer service. After coming to the health department in 2002, he believed he had "found his home" as public health work reflected his personal values of respect for others, social justice, and giving service and voice to those unable to speak for themselves.

#### REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH MEETINGS 2004 Schedule

**Central Region:** Meetings are held at the Reno County Health Department from 10am – 3pm. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639 if you have any questions. Dates are:

May 26

July 28

September 22

November - Date to be announced

**North Central Region:** Meetings are held from 9am-3pm. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639 if you have any questions. Dates and locations are:

April 13                      Airport Hilton - Wichita

June 22                      Ellsworth

August 24                  Belleville

October 26                Lincoln

December 7                Abilene

**Northeast Region:** Meetings are held at the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Azure Conference 4th Floor, Topeka, from 10am-3pm. Please contact Anita Hodge at 785-368-8110 or Jon Anderson at 620-431-2390 if you have any questions. Dates are:

June 10  
September 9  
December 9

**Northwest Region:** Meetings are held from 10 am-3 pm at the NW Educational Service Center in Oakley. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639 if you have any questions. Dates are:

April 8  
June 10  
August 12  
October 14  
December 9

**Southeast Region:** Meetings are held from 10 am-3 pm at the Holiday Park Motel, 3030 S. Santa Fe, Chanute. Please contact Jon Anderson at 620-431-2390 if you have any questions. Dates are:

May 6  
August 5  
November 4

**Southwest Region:** Meetings are held from 9 am-3 pm in Garden City. Location to be announced. Dates are:

May 21  
July 16  
September 17  
November 19

## PERSONNEL UPDATES

**Jerry Tenbrink, BA** - has joined the staff of Office of Local and Rural Health as Bioterrorism Training Specialist. Prior to coming to Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Jerry served as State Coordinator for the **DARE** Program in the Attorney General's Office.

**Jason Cummins, BS, MPH** - began his position as Epidemiology Surveillance Coordinator in the Emergency Preparedness and Response Department at the Public Health Department of Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS on February 12, 2004. Jason received his under graduate degree in Biology and Chemistry and his Masters of Public Health both from Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green. He received the **Outstanding Graduate Student Award** for the Department of Public Health in 2003.

**Patricia Remmers, Administrator** - at Nemaha County Community Health Services has resigned and will now be working full time with home health care and hospice at the Sabetha Community Hospital.

**Trudy Shane, LPN** - Has joined the Kansas Immunization Program and Bureau of Epidemiology & Disease Presentation (BEDP), as an Immunization Nurse Consultant. Trudy previously worked at the Lyon County Health Department for 29 years. She graduated from Flint Hills College and has been a LPN for the last 34 years. Trudy will be based out of the Lawrence District Office and her responsibilities will cover seven northeast counties.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease



Acid Suppressant Therapy is effective for short-term relief of heartburn for patients with persistent symptoms. Gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) inflames the esophagus due to the abnormal backflow of gastric contents into the esophagus. GERD's chief manifestation, heartburn, is experienced monthly by about one-fourth of adults in developed countries, and five percent suffer from heartburn daily. Acid suppressant therapy with a proton pump inhibitor (PPI) or a histamine-2 receptor antagonist (H2RA) is more effective than placebo for short-term relief of heartburn in patients with persistent symptoms, concludes a study supported by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (HS09796). After reviewing, 1,408 studies, Dr. Joseph Lau, of New England Medical Center, and his colleagues conducted a meta-analysis of 13 studies that compared the short-term use of PPIs and H2RAs with each other or with placebo for relief of heartburn in adults with GERD. Adults were enrolled irrespective of endoscopic finds (3,433 empirical cases) or in whom endoscopy showed no signs of inflammation of the esophagus (2,520 with endoscopy-negative reflux disease, ENRD). In the empirical treatment of GERD, H2RAs reduced the risk of heartburn by 23 percent over placebo, and in the only placebo-controlled trial, PPIs reduced the risk of heartburn over placebo by 65 percent. In treatment of ENRD, both PPIs and H2RAs were superior to placebo, and PPIs were superior to H2RAs. See *Short-term treatment of gastroesophageal reflux disease*, by Dr. Bart Van



Pinxteren, Dr. Mattijs E. Numans, Dr. Lau, and others, in the September 2003 *Journal of General Internal Medicine* 18, pp. 755-763.

### NOAA Weather Radio Warning



Beginning June 30<sup>th</sup> NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) Specific Area Message Encoding/Emergency Alert System (SAME/EAS) event warning codes will be available nationally for a

variety of non-weather events.

The new codes will allow NWR users to program desired alert messages on subjects ranging from child abduction emergencies, local area emergencies, Received: from INTDom-MTA by dohc2.hea fire warnings, and hazardous material warnings, to radiological or nuclear power plant warnings, shelter-in-place warnings, or volcano warnings.



If new event codes cannot be added to existing NWR receivers, the codes may be displayed as unknown warning or similar message when they are transmitted over NOAA Weather Radio. Owners of such non-upgradeable radios who wish to receive the new codes would have to purchase a newer model radio receiver.

Owners should check the documentation that came with their receiver, or contact the manufacturer (via telephone or Internet) to see if the new event codes are already programmed into the receiver, or if they can be added in manually.

A range of compliant products will soon be available to the American public. Consumers looking to either upgrade their current NOAA Weather Radio receiver or to purchase a new one should look for them later this spring. Look for the Consumer Electronics Association's new Public Alert designation that will appear on devices carrying public safety alerts broadcast over the all-hazard NOAA Weather Radio system and the Environment Canada Weatheradio® Network.



A complete list of the current and new EAS/SAME codes to be implemented on June 30<sup>th</sup> is available online at

[http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/eas\\_codes.htm](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/eas_codes.htm).

Additional information on the emergency alert system is available online at

[http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/nws\\_eas.htm](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/nws_eas.htm) and

<http://www.fcc.gov/eb/eas>.

### PHClinic Software Upgrades

by Peter Kitch



As most of our PHClinic users are probably aware, our software upgrade frequency exceeds industry averages because of the rapid rate at which we continue to improve the system's functionality and usability. It is our desire to produce a world-class software product in the public health arena. The goal within Kansas is to create the best community level public health information system support found anywhere. Our work with Turning Point and the Public Health Informatics Institute indicates we are well on our way towards achieving that goal and we hope to make an announcement in the near future that will provide concrete evidence of great progress in that direction.

As we continue to grow our base software program, PHClinic, we are also constantly looking at ways to improve the effective use of our development tools, particularly the Progress database engine upon which PHClinic is built. This database has offered great stability and performance for our user base. However, it is now time to upgrade to the newest version of Progress. We have been working for several months now to develop a set of conversion tools that will reduce the upgrade effort and will shortly be testing them at beta sites. We anticipate converting the entire Kansas user base to the new version over the next six months.

We have been using the new Progress database product in the development of PHEnvironment, our new environmental health system, which will be beta tested in Utah starting next month. The database has a number of wonderful new features that increase our programming efficiency. In addition to the development benefits, users will be given improved access to their data through the use of a tool allowing direct access to the database including the ability to create real time data queries. As we prepare for this upgrade, we will also be reviewing the PHClinic standard report set in order to improve report flow and layout. We believe you will be very pleased with these and other benefits to be derived from the database product upgrade.

### New Public Health Nursing Text Incorporates Public Health Competencies

Information about the Council on Linkages (COL) Core Public Health Competencies has been incorporated throughout the sixth Edition (released



January 2004) Community and Public Health Nursing: Stanhope and Lancaster. This text is used as the core public health nursing text at many undergraduate schools of nursing and a supplemental text at graduate schools of nursing throughout the U.S. Nurses graduating from BSN programs are now likely to have been exposed to these core competencies. This is a step towards meeting one of the IOM report's recommendations to strengthen public health learning in schools of nursing.

### **Nation's Health Gets a Mixed Review RN Professional Journal**

*January 2004, Vol. 67, No. 1, pg.12*



Americans are living longer, having healthier babies, and paying more attention to their health these days. They're also fatter and more likely to suffer from chronic disease, the National Center for Health Statistics' new report on the nation's health reveals. In 2001, overall life expectancy reached 77.2 years, a gain of nearly two years since 1990. The gap between races also narrowed. In 1990, whites lived an average of seven years more than African-Americans. In 2001, the difference had shrunk to 5.5 years. Infant mortality declined, to 6.8 deaths per 1,000 live births. The teen birth rate was at its lowest in six years (45 births per 1,000 females ages 15-19). Prenatal care increased, up from 76 percent in 1990 to 83 percent in 2001. On the downside, weight and weight-related illnesses stand out. In 20 years, the percentage of overweight children more than doubled, reaching 15 percent in the late 1990s. And two out of three adults ages 20-74 are overweight or obese. Between 1997 and 2002, the proportion of Americans diagnosed with diabetes rose by 27 percent.

### **CDC Helps Ready Nation for Reappearance of SARS**

**RN Professional Journal**

*January 2004, Vol.67,  
No. 1, pg. 14*



As the country geared up for winter, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a draft plan outlining concepts and strategies designed to guide a national response in the event of another outbreak of severe adult respiratory syndrome.

The document addresses everything from rapid identification and isolation of potential SARS cases to quarantine and widespread screening to help public health officials and healthcare providers prepare for a possible reappearance of SARS. The CDC plan, which is based on lessons learned from the global SARS epidemic last year, is available on line at

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/preparedness.htm>.

### **Automated External Defibrillators**

*Research Activities*

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
(AHRQ), No. 281,  
January 2004*



An estimated 250,000 Americans die each year from cardiac arrest suffered at public places such as a mall, sports stadium, or airport. Studies show that lay responders will use available automated external defibrillators (AEDs), which shock the heart back into normal rhythm, to revive cardiac arrest victims. The American Heart Association (AHA) recommends that AEDs be located in public places where there is a reasonable probability of one AED use in 5 years (20 percent annual probability of AED use). However, AEDs could be deployed at sites



with only a 12 percent annual probability of AED use and still be cost effective, according to a study supported by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (National Research Service Award training grant T32 H00053). Dr. Peter Cram, M.B.A., of the University of Iowa College of Medicine and his colleagues used a decision model to compare two strategies at selected public locations in the United States. In the first strategy, individuals experiencing cardiac arrest were treated by emergency medical services personnel equipped with AEDs (EMS-D). In the second strategy, individuals were treated with AEDs deployed as part of a public access defibrillation program. Under strategy 1, cardiac arrest victims had a 10 percent probability of survival to hospital discharge, but they had a 25 percent probability under strategy 2 (based on an average time-to-shock interval of 4.5 minutes). Under the base-case assumption that a deployed AED will be used on one cardiac arrest every five years, the cost per quality-adjusted life year (QALY) gained was \$30,000 for AED deployment (\$3,400 per site per year) compared with EMS-D care. AED deployment cost less than

\$50,000 per QALY gained (considered cost-effective for a medical intervention) even when the annual probability of AED use was only 12 percent or more. More details are in "Cost-effectiveness of automated external defibrillator deployment in selected public locations," by Dr. Cram, Dr. Sandeep Vijan, M.S., and Dr. A. Mark Fendrick, in the September 2003 *Journal of General Internal Medicine* 18, pp. 745-754.

## CONFERENCES

### Public Health International Conference Washburn University

#### Keynote Speaker Dr. Robert Knox



New challenges to medical science and traditional treatment created by bacterial resistance will be the focus of a luncheon address by healthcare consultant Dr. Robert Knox during the second day of the public health conference "Promoting Global Health: Visions and Strategies." Knox's presentation will be "A Global View of Emerging Bacterial Resistance."

An associate clinical professor (otolaryngology) at the University of Louisville (Ky.) School of Medicine, Dr. Knox shifted his professional focus to the development of scientific educational successes after concluding a thriving ear, nose and throat surgery practice. He is a graduate of the University of Louisville School of Medicine and Wittenberg University. Knox is a fellow of both the American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery and the American Rhinologic Society. He is the author of several scientific publications in peer-reviewed medical periodicals.

"Promoting Global Health: Visions and Strategies" will be July 10-13 at Washburn University, Topeka. The international health conference will provide a forum to share strategies and innovations in public health through keynote speakers, concurrent sessions, symposia and poster presentations. The Washburn University School of Nursing, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and six other northeastern Kansas healthcare organizations host the conference.

For more information please contact Dr. Ellen Carson, Associate Dean, School of Nursing,



Washburn University, at 785-231-1010, extension 1212, [ellen.carson@washburn.edu](mailto:ellen.carson@washburn.edu) or see our website:

<http://www.washburn.edu/nursing-conference>

### HIPAA Security Standards Conference



This conference is an educational opportunity for you to learn more about the HIPAA security standards and it will briefly cover transaction code sets and privacy. The meeting will take place on April 7<sup>th</sup> at the Four Points by Sheraton in Wichita, KS. The Kansas Hospital Association, Healthcare Financial Management Association - Sunflower Chapter, Kansas Health Information Management Association and the Kansas HIMSS Chapter, is sponsoring this meeting.

The pre-registration deadline for this event is March 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Seventeenth Annual Maternal and Child Health Leadership Conference



An invitation to multidisciplinary professionals responsible for MCH and related services in Topeka/Shawnee County. Please join the MCH staff of the Shawnee County Health Agency to view the live webcast of the keynote and plenary sessions of the Seventeenth Annual Maternal and Child Health Leadership Conference May 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. This conference is designed by and for MCH professionals. The live web casts will be interactive via email question and answer sessions.

Below you will find times and a brief description of each session. You may pick and choose the sessions you want to attend. On Monday May 17, a simple lunch will be served at a cost of \$5. You must register for lunch. For complete conference information go to: [http://www.uic.edu/sph/mch/ce/mch\\_leaders\\_hip](http://www.uic.edu/sph/mch/ce/mch_leaders_hip). For additional information or participants who plan to attend and have lunch should contact Penny Selbee via email [penny.selbee@co.shawnee.ks.us](mailto:penny.selbee@co.shawnee.ks.us). All sessions will be in the Shawnee Health Agency Auditorium.

**Monday May 17<sup>th</sup>**

8:15–10:00 am KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Making Evaluation Useful  
 10:15–11:45 am SHAWNEE COUNTY Round Table discussion – Topic to be announced  
 11:45–1:30 pm - PLENARY I: Support Programs for Women During Pregnancy  
 3:30–5:00 pm - PLENARY II: Home Visitation: Nurse and Para-Professional Models

**Tuesday May 18<sup>th</sup>**

10:00–11:30 am - PLENARY III: Early Childhood Intervention: Lessons from the Chicago-Based Child-Parent Center Program and Implications for Public Health  
 1:00–2:30 pm PLENARY IV: Sex and HIV/AIDS Education Programs for Teens: What Works, What Doesn't

**American Occupational Health Conference**

The 89<sup>th</sup> Spring Annual Scientific Meeting in Occupational & Environmental Medicine will be April 30th-May 7th in Kansas City, MO. The conference is presented by ACOEM (American



College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine) and AAOHN (American Association of Occupational Health Nurses)



Program information is available at:

<http://www.acoem.org/education/aohc2004/AOHCProgram.pdf>.

**Annual Cancer Partner's Conference**

This year's annual Cancer Partner's Conference will be held at the Topeka Capitol Plaza Hotel March 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> and will feature an exciting line up of speakers and activities. For the first time, the conference will provide a forum for partners and providers for Early Detection Works (including clinical sessions) and will also provide the opportunity for members of the Kansas Cancer Partnership to meet for the first time.



Featured at this year's conference will be an overview of comprehensive cancer, an inspirational message regarding Survivalship and Spirituality, an update on cancer in Kansas, a luncheon and concurrent sessions which have been planned to

accommodate suggestions and ideas from many of you!

The Office of Health Promotion - Cancer Prevention and Control Program, Cancer Information Service, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, American Cancer Society, in cooperation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are sponsoring this conference, and we hope you'll plan now to attend.

For information about the conference, or to request an agenda, call 1-877-277-1368 or 785-296-1207 or check the KDHE website <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/ftk>

**NACCHO Annual 2004 Conference and Exhibition**

National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), Annual 2004 Conference and Exhibition will be July 14-16 in St. Paul, Minnesota,



at the Radisson Riverfront Hotel St. Paul. The theme this year "Sharing Our Potential: Competencies, Capacities, and Core Functions in Local Public Health" will identify and

address the professional competencies and capacities required to successfully and energetically take local public health into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Innovative and effective local public health core activities, as well as new trends and advances in local public health, will be showcased. For more information please visit <http://www.naccho.org>.

**TRAININGS****Medical Interpreter Training Scheduled for 2004**

Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Local and Rural Health, will sponsor six medical interpreter-training sessions this year. Funding has been provided for these training sessions through the Heartland Centers for Public Health Workforce Development, Saint Louis University, School of Public Health, and the KDHE/CDC Bioterrorism Grant Training Fund. The last two training sessions are listed below:

**SC KANSAS**

University of Kansas School of Medicine - Wichita  
 1010 N. Kansas, Santa Fe Room  
 Wichita, KS 67214  
 July 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> from 8:00 am-5:00 pm



## SW KANSAS

Western Plains Medical Complex  
Classroom located at the Annex Building (across from the hospital)  
108 Ross Blvd.  
Dodge City, KS 67801  
May 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am-5:00 pm

For more information/or registration please contact Elizabeth Kizzie at Jewish Vocational Service, 1608 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO 64108 or call 816-471-2808 ext. 142, e-mail address [ekizzie@jvskc.org](mailto:ekizzie@jvskc.org).



## Cultural Competency Training

Kansas Department of Health & Environment, Office of Local & Rural Health, will sponsor four

Cultural Competency training sessions this year. The KDHE/CDC Bioterrorism Grant Training Fund is funding the training sessions. Elizabeth Kizzie and Catherine Anderson are presenting the training sessions from Jewish Vocational Service in Kansas City. Health care providers serve more non-English or limited English-speaking clients each day. The two main barriers providers face are language and culture. The Cultural Competency training sessions will provide you an opportunity to learn how to effectively communicate with limited English-proficient clients, collaborate with families and coordinate services. The topics covered will include; Dimensions of Diversity, Working Effectively with Interpreters, and Building Culturally Competent Community Partnerships.



## GREAT BEND

April 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>  
8:00 am-5:00 pm  
SRS Building  
1305 Patton Road  
Great Bend, KS

## GARDEN CITY

June 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>  
8:00 am-5:00 pm  
SRS Building  
1710 Palace Drive  
Garden City, KS 67846

For more information/or registration please contact Elizabeth Kizzie or Catherine Anderson at Jewish Vocational Service, 1608 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO 64108 at 816-471-2808, ext. 142 for Elizabeth and ext. 124 for Catherine. You may also e-mail Elizabeth at [ekizzie@jvskc.org](mailto:ekizzie@jvskc.org) and e-mail Catherine at [canders@jvskc.org](mailto:canders@jvskc.org).

## Billing Workshops

### North Central Billing Group ("BB")

June 29<sup>th</sup> To be announced 9:00 am-noon  
September 21<sup>st</sup> To be announced 9:00 am-noon  
Please contact Debbie Whitmer at (785) 827-9639 if you have any questions.

### North West Billing Group ("BA")

May 26<sup>th</sup> To be announced 9:00 am-3:00 pm  
August 25<sup>th</sup> To be announced 9:00 am- 3:00 pm  
November 23<sup>rd</sup> To be announced 9:00 am-3:00 pm  
Please contact Debbie Whitmer at (785) 827-9639 if you have any questions.

## Healthy Start Home Visitor Spring Regional Training 2004

### 4-5-04 NE – Sabetha 9A-12P

Nemaha County Health  
Department  
1205 Main  
Sabetha, KS 66534

### 4-7-04 NC – Concordia 9A-12P

Cloud County Health  
Department  
1010 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Concordia, KS 66901

### 4-26-04 SE – Eureka 9A-12P

Meeting Room Behind Enterprise Bank  
418 N Main Street  
Eureka, KS 67045

### 5-3-04 SC – Pratt 1P-4P

Community Center in Pratt  
619 N Main  
Pratt, KS 67124

For questions or further information contact:  
Christine Tuck, RN  
Child Health Consultant  
[ctuck@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:ctuck@kdhe.state.ks.us)  
785-296-7433

Joe Kotsch, RN  
Perinatal Health Consultant  
[jkotsch@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:jkotsch@kdhe.state.ks.us)  
785-296-1306



## GENERAL WORKSHOPS

Continuing Education of interest to PH Workforce is listed by the Kansas State Board of Nursing at: <http://www.ksbn.org>.

**Kansas Division of Emergency Management:**  
<http://www.accesskansas.org/kdem/trainingnew.htm>



### Public Health Training Network Satellite Downlinks/Webcasts

See PHTN website at [www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn](http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn) to view a complete list of satellite downlinks and webcasts. Call Linda Frazier, Distance Learning Coordinator at (785) 625-5663 if you need assistance.

## April 2004 ☐

04/07/04 2:00-4:00pm	<b>Legal Issues for Home Health Aides and Attendants</b> <i>Home Health Aides and Home Attendants</i>  For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .
04/14/04 2:00-4:00pm	<b>Reproductive Health Issues for Women Over 40</b> <i>(Public Health Staff Development)</i>  For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .
04/15/04 8:00-9:00 am	Third Thursday Breakfast Broadcasts (T2B2) presents: <b>Crisis and Risk Communication</b>  For more information, call 518-402-0330 or visit <a href="http://www.albany.edu/sph/coned/t2b2">http://www.albany.edu/sph/coned/t2b2</a>
04/16/04 2:00-4:00pm	<b>Tuberculosis: Past, Present and Future</b>  For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama

	Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .
04/20/04 12:00-1:00pm	<b>Implementing Self-Management Education: Successes and Challenges in Arthritis</b>  For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .
04/21/04 2:00-4:00pm	<b>Obesity in Adolescents and Adults Satellite Conference</b>  For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .
04/22/04 12:00-1:30pm	<b>Hospital Response to Emergency Events</b>  sponsored by South Central Center for Public Health Preparedness Change at the Community Level  For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .
04/29/04 12:00-2:00pm	<b>Prevention with Positives: HIV Risk Reduction Strategies for Health Care Providers</b>  More info will be available after Feb. 1, 2004 on the web site <a href="http://www.cdcnpin.org/broadcast">http://www.cdcnpin.org/broadcast</a> and by CDC Fax System at 888-CDC-FAXX (or 877-232-1010 for the hearing impaired) and enter document #130039 when prompted.
<b>May 2004 ☐</b>	
05/06/04 1:00-2:30pm	ASTDHPPE Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL 22nd National Conference on Health Promotion and Education <b>The Future of Health Promotion and Health Education: Transforming Vision to Reality</b>

	For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .
<b>05/07/04</b> 1:00-2:30pm	ASTDHPPE Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL 22nd National Conference on Health Promotion and Education <b>Crisis Risk Communication</b>  For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .
<b>05/18/04</b> 2:00-4:00pm	<b>Diabetes and Cardiovascular Risk: Affecting Change in Communities to Increase Physical Activity</b>  For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit <a href="http://www.adph.org/alphtn">http://www.adph.org/alphtn</a> .

#### To Order Tapes/CD's:

**Public Health Foundation Online Bookstore:**  
<http://bookstore.phf.org/cat20.htm>

**CDC BT programs:**  
<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/training/index.asp>

#### Nursing Education

**Ft. Hays Nursing:** <http://www.fhsu.edu/nursing>

**KU Nursing:** KU has an on-line RN to BSN completion program:  
[http://www2.kumc.edu/son/vclassroom/rn\\_to\\_bsn.htm](http://www2.kumc.edu/son/vclassroom/rn_to_bsn.htm)

**Washburn PHN Certification Program-** e-mail Dr. Janice Dunwell at: [zzdnwl@washburn.edu](mailto:zzdnwl@washburn.edu)

**ANA's web site:** <http://www.RNCE.org>

#### Other Continuing Education Online

**The WALD CENTER:** <http://www.waldcenter.org>  
**The Public Health Training Network:**  
<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn/default.asp>

**KDHE/KALHD Training Calendars:**  
<http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us>. Click on the calendar you wish to view.

**Training Finder:** Comprehensive database of distance learning course listings  
<http://www.trainingfinder.org>.

**The MMWR Continuing Education Program:**  
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr>

**MPH Kansas:** <http://mph.kumc.edu>.

**National Library of Medicine –**  
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov>.

**CDC BT Training –**  
<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/training/index.asp>

**The Illinois Public Health Preparedness Center:** <http://www.uic.edu/sph/prepare>

**Heartland Center for Public Health Preparedness:** <http://slu.edu/centers/heartland>

**Centers for Public Health Preparedness:**  
<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/owpp/CPHPLocations.asp>

**Public Health Training Centers:**  
<http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/publichealth/phtc.htm>

**Other Public Health Workforce Development Centers:**  
<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/owpp/resources.asp>

#### Public Health Workforce Competencies

**Bioterrorism and Emergency Readiness Competencies for all Public Health Workers:**  
<http://www.nursing.hs.columbia.edu/institute-centers/chphsr/btcomps.html>

**Competencies Feedback Project by the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice.**  
<http://www.trainingfinder.org/competencies/index.htm>

**Local Health Section  
Office of Local & Rural Health**

<p>Shirley Orr Director, Local Health 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – 785-296-7100 Cell phone –316-250-6940 Fax number 785-296-1231 E-mail address – <a href="mailto:sorr@kdhe.state.ks.us">sorr@kdhe.state.ks.us</a></p>	<p>Terri Ploger-McCool Bioterrorism Training Coordinator 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – 785-291-3796 Fax number 785-296-1231 E-mail address – <a href="mailto:tplogerm@kdhe.state.ks.us">tplogerm@kdhe.state.ks.us</a></p>
<p>Linda Frazier PH Workforce Development Coordinator/DLC 2301 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Hays, KS 67601-2651 Office phone – 785-625-5663 Cell phone – 785-231-4504 Fax number – 785-625-4005 E-mail address – <a href="mailto:lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us">lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us</a></p>	<p>Debbie Whitmer PH Nurse Specialist 2501-D Market Place Salina, KS 67401-7699 Office phone –785-827-9639 Cell phone – 785-452-5986 Fax number – 785-827-1544 Email address – <a href="mailto:dwhitmer@kdhe.state.ks.us">dwhitmer@kdhe.state.ks.us</a></p>
<p>Anita Hodge PH Nurse Specialist 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – 785-368-8110 Cell phone – 785-231-4357 Fax number - 785-296-1231 E-mail address – <a href="mailto:ahodge@kdhe.state.ks.us">ahodge@kdhe.state.ks.us</a></p>	<p>Jon Anderson PH Nurse Specialist 1500 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Chanute, KS 66720-9701 Office phone – 620-431-2390 Cell phone 785-231-9828 Fax number – 620-431-1211 E-mail address – <a href="mailto:janderso@kdhe.state.ks.us">janderso@kdhe.state.ks.us</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Jerry Tenbrink Bioterrorism Training Specialist 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – 785-291-3241 Fax number – 785-296-1231 E-mail address – <a href="mailto:jtenbrin@kdhe.state.ks.us">jtenbrin@kdhe.state.ks.us</a></p>	